What is a Center of Excellence (COE)?

An autism Center of Excellence (COE) is a primary care provider, psychologist or psychiatrist that has received the COE training authorized by the Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) and has been judged by the HCA to be qualified to diagnose autism and write a prescription for Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) services if appropriate.

Become a COE!

If you are a care provider in Grays Harbor or Pacific County and would like more information about how to become a Center of Excellence, visit https://medicalhome.org/statei nitiatives/centers-ofexcellence/ or send an email to Kate Orville at orville@uw.edu.

CONTACT US

In Grays Harbor County

Grays Harbor County Public Health Stefani Joesten, SMART Team Coordinator Work Cell: 360.660.5042

Fax: 360.533.6272

In Pacific County

Pacific County Public Health Kim Oliver, LPN, Family Navigator Office: 360.875.9343, ext. 2644

Fax: 360.875.9323



Find all of our forms and additional information at The Arc of Grays Harbor website by clicking on **SMART Autism Screening** under the Community Resources tab.

arcgh.org

Be sure to check out the Community Resources Guide while you are visiting the Arc website!



Information for Providers

What is the SMART Team?

The Pacific and Grays Harbor
Counties SMART(School Medical
Autism Review) Team is a multidisciplinary team of community
service providers who have the
experience and passion for
supporting local families. We meet
virtually once per month to make
recommendations or referrals to a
Certified Center of Excellence (COE)
Provider who is able to evaluate and
provide an autism diagnosis if one is
warranted.



What is our purpose?

It can take months or years to get into one of our area's regional autism centers. Our goal is to get kiddos under the age of 21 connected to the services they need more quickly and with improved accessibility.

The SMART Team Process

Referral

We receive information that a kiddo is in need of an evaluation.

Review

The SMART Team looks at all applicable information and decides whether or not an autism evaluation is warranted.

Support

The county Children and Youth with Special Healthcare Needs Coordinator will work with the family to ensure service connections are made.

Information Collecting

We get a packet to the parent and work with them to get all needed records back to us.

Evaluation OR Recommendations

If an evaluation is warranted, a COE autism evaluation will be scheduled. If not, we will make recommendations for next steps for the family.

Get involved!

- Print out the SMART Team paperwork packet and send it home with families at the same time you fax their referral form to us. (Provider referral form and family paperwork are available online using the QR code on the back of this brochure.)
- Pre-screen referrals that might be a better fit for a regional autism center. (Referrals to these centers must be made by the kiddo's primary care provider.)
- If you are interested in joining the Pacific and Grays Harbor Counties SMART Team, please contact Stefani Joesten at 360.660.5024 or sjoesten@graysharbor.us.

Due to their complexities, some kiddos are a better fit for our regional autism centers like Mary Bridge or Seattle Children's. This would include:

- Kiddos with multiple diagnoses such as oppositional defiant disorder, conduct disorder, disruptive mood dysregulation disorder, etc. or kiddos with extensive trauma.
- Families requesting a "rule-out".
- Kiddos who have had previous evaluations for autism.